THE SERBIAN RELIEF FUND

REGISTERED.

338

Patroness: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
President: THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

Vice-Presidents:

H.E. CARDINAL BOURNE
RT. HON. H. H. ASQUITH, M.P.
RT. HON. A. BONAR LAW, M.P.
RT. HON. D. LLOYD GEORGE, M.P.
RT. HON. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.
REV. F. B. MEYER, D.D.
THE EARL CURZON OF KEDLESTON
RT. HON. WINSTON CHURCHILL, M.P
REV. G. CAMPBELL-MORGAN, D.D.
MADAME GROUITCH
THE LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD.
RT. HON. HERBERT SAMUEL, M.P.
MR. NOEL BUXTON, M.P.

Committee:

THE DUCHESS OF SOMERSET
THE VISCOUNTESS COWDRAY
THE HON. LADY WHITEHEAD
LADY YOUNG
LADY GROGAN
LADY BOYLE
LADY MOND
LADY DUNLOP
LADY PAGET, G.B.E.
MRS. GEORGE CADBURY
MRS. JAMES CURRIE
MISS RUTH FRY
MRS. MASTERMAN
MRS. HUGH TUFNELL
MRS. SETON WATSON
MRS. CARRINGTON WILDE
THE LORD KENYON
SIR EDWARD BOYLE, BART.
SIR HERBERT MORGAN, K.B.E.
SIR EDWARD PARROTT, LL.D.
SIR ARTHUR EVANS, LL.D., F.R.S.
SIR VALENTINE CHIROL
SIR HARRY REICHEL, LL.D.
MR. W. ALBRIGHT
MR. SIDNEY BALL
MR. GEORGE BONAR
PROF. R. C. BOSANQUET
MR. R. M. BURROWS, D.LITT.
PRINCIPAL CHILDS
MR. BERTRAM CHRISTIAN
MAJOR DAVID DAVIES, M.P.
THE MASTER OF DOWNING COLLEGE
REV. H. J. FYNES-CLINTON CAMBRIDGE
MR JOYNSON-HICKS, M.P.
MR. F. C. LINDO
DR. R. O. MOON
MR. T. P O'CONNOR, M.P
AND OTHERS

Chairman:
LORD HENRY CAVENDISH BENTINCK, M.P.

Vice-Chairman:
MR. GLYNNE WILLIAMS

Hon. Treasurer:
THE EARL OF PLYMOUTH, C.B.

Hon. Secretary:
MR. R. W. SETON WATSON, D.LITT.

Hon. Financial Secretary:
MR. FRANCIS A. COOPER, C.M.G.

Bankers:
LONDON COUNTY & WESTMINSTER BANK, LTD.,
ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.1

Hon. Auditors:
MESSRS. COLE, DICKIN & HILLS

General Secretary:
MISS M. L. BIGGS

All Communications should be addressed to Lady Grogan,

5, CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON, S.W. 7.

Telephone: KENSINGTON 1555.

18th Sept. 1918

Sir Robert Alexander Falconer, K.C.M.G., LL.D.,
The University, TORONTO, Canada.

Dear Sir Robert Falconer,

Our Vice Chairman, Mr. Borie, called at your address in the hope of finding you on the day after your visit here, but we gather you must have already started homewards.

We were all very glad that you were able to pay us a visit and beg that you will take a message of warm thanks from us back to the Canadian Serbian Relief Fund, and that you will tell them how deeply we appreciate their support.

I enclose our latest report just out. We have sent 100 copies to Miss Boulton.

With our grateful thanks,

Yours sincerely,

L. D. B. Grogan.

Chairman of the Staffs Sub-Committee.

P.T.O.

337

THE SERBIAN RELIEF FUND.

Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916.

5, CROMWELL ROAD, LONDON, S.W. 7.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH APRIL, 1918.

Patroness:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President:
THE LORD BISHOP OF LONDON.

Vice-Presidents:

H.E. CARDINAL BOURNE.
RT. HON. D. LLOYD GEORGE, M.P. (*Prime Minister*).
The EARL CURZON OF KEDLESTON.
The LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD.
RT. HON. H. H. ASQUITH, M.P.
RT. HON. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.
RT. HON. WINSTON CHURCHILL, M.P.
RT. HON. HERBERT SAMUEL, M.P.
RT. HON. A. BONAR LAW, M.P.
REV. F. B. MEYER, D.D.
REV. G. CAMPBELL MORGAN, D.D.
MR. NOEL BUXTON, M.P.
MADAME GROUITCH.

Chairman:
THE LORD HENRY CAVENDISH BENTINCK, M.P.

Vice-Chairman:
MR. GLYNNE WILLIAMS.

Hon. Treasurer: RT. HON. the EARL OF PLYMOUTH, G.B.E., C.B.
Hon. Secretary: MR. R. W. SETON-WATSON, D.LITT.
Hon. Financial Secretary: MR. FRANCIS A. COOPER, C.M.G.

Committee:

THE DUCHESS OF SOMERSET.
THE VISCOUNTESS COWDRAY.
*THE HON. LADY WHITEHEAD.
LADY YOUNG.
*LADY GROGAN.
*LADY BOYLE.
LADY MOND.
LADY DUNLOP.
*LADY PAGET, G.B.E.
*MRS. NOEL BUXTON.
MRS. GEORGE CADBURY.
*MRS. BERTRAM CHRISTIAN.
MADAME CHRISTITCH.
*MRS. JAMES CURRIE.
*MISS RUTH FRY.
MRS. H. R. GOTTO.
MRS. HARRISON.
MRS. HAYWARD.
MRS. GRICE-HUTCHINSON.
*MRS. MASTERMAN.
MISS ORD.
MRS. SCARAMANGA RALLI.
*MRS. HUGH TUFNELL.
*MRS. SETON-WATSON.
*MRS. CARRINGTON WILDE.
*THE LORD KENYON, K.C.V.O.
THE LORD FITZMAURICE.
*THE LORD CHARNWOOD.
*SIR EDWARD BOYLE, BART.
*SIR HERBERT MORGAN, K.B.E.
*SIR EDWARD PARROTT, LL.D.
SIR ARTHUR EVANS, LL.D., F.R.S.
*SIR VALENTINE CHIROL.
SIR HARRY REICHEL.
M. LE BARON A. DE BLONAY.
*MR. W. A. ALBRIGHT.
*MR. PERCY ALDEN, M.P.
DR. JAMES BERRY.
MR. GEORGE BONAR.
PROF. R. C. BOSANQUET.
LT.-COL. BRYAN.
*MR. R. M. BURROWS, D.LITT.
PRINCIPAL CHILDS.
*MR. BERTRAM CHRISTIAN.
*REV. H. J. FYNES-CLINTON.
*MAJOR DAVID DAVIES, M.P.
REV. PERCY DEARMER, D.D.
THE MASTER OF DOWNING COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.
PROF. JAMES GILROY.
MR. C. L. GRAVES.
PRINCIPAL GRIFFITHS.
MR. W. G. HANRAHAN.
MR. ERNEST HAYWARD.
MR. W. JOYNSON-HICKS, M.P.
COLONEL HODGETTS.
MR. JAMES F. HOPE, M.P.
MR. HUGH LAW, M.P.
*MR. F. C. LINDO.
DR. R. O. MOON, F.R.C.P.
MR. T. P. O'CONNOR, M.P.
MR. J. O'GRADY, M.P.
*MR. H. POWELL REES.
PRINCIPAL ROBERTS.
MR. A. M. SCOTT, M.P.
MR. J. ST. LOE STRACHEY.
*MR. G. M. TREVELYAN.

General Secretary: MISS M. L. BIGGS.
Bankers: LONDON COUNTY & WESTMINSTER BANK, LTD., ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W. 1.
Hon. Auditors: MESSRS. COLE, DICKIN & HILLS

* Executive Committee.

THE SERBIAN RELIEF FUND.

IN issuing the report of the Serbian Relief Fund for the year ending 30th April last, we do not propose to recapitulate the history of the Fund, or to do more than give a short account of our activities for the year under review.

Those interested in knowing what the Fund did previously, *i.e.*, from its inception in the autumn of 1914, are invited to obtain reports from the Secretary, at 5, Cromwell Road, S.W. 7.

There have been few striking developments in the work of the Fund during the year, but things have gone on steadily in almost every branch.

Prisoners of War.—The feeding of the Serbian prisoners of war from Berne, carried on almost single-handed by the Fund for many months, has been taken over by the American Red Cross Society on behalf of the Serbian Government, but the Serbian Relief Fund has continued to send large parcels of clothing to the prisoners, and is the recognised official body to which is entrusted the supervision of the despatch of food parcels to individual prisoners which are paid for by people willing to take one or more prisoners under their care.

North Africa.—The largest development in our work is its extension among the wounded and disabled Serbians in North Africa. Most of the badly wounded on the Macedonian front are taken there by the French, by whose kindness our workers have been allowed to establish workshops which have been of great assistance in teaching trades to men who have lost limbs, and who without occupation or hope, would have rapidly deteriorated into a state of apathy and indolence which would have left them a permanent charge on their own or some other country.

This work was mentioned in our last report, but it has been greatly extended since then and our staff now includes two fully-qualified nurses and two masseuses, as well as several ladies who are able to train the men in various occupations. An Asile, or Home and Training Centre, of which Miss Power is the Matron, has lately been opened in the country at Ben Negro near Bizerta.

Between 100 and 200 patients are received there, many of them "tremblers" and nervous cases, and their progress, according to Mr. Maurice Wilson, who continues to represent the Fund in North Africa, has been really phenomenal. We would take this opportunity of expressing the gratitude we feel to the French Authorities and to the Hon. Terence Bourke, the British Consul at Bizerta, for the help they have given us all through.

Macedonia.—In Macedonia the work has continued under the direction of Mr. R. C. Grey. Dr. Clemow, C.M.G., has succeeded Professor Simpson, C.M.G., as Administrator of our main hospital. This hospital has been moved from Sorovitch to Kremyan on Serbian territory, much nearer to Monastir and the villages where relief work is being carried on, and altogether is much better situated in every way. Moving, and establishing the hospital on its new site, involved much work, as roads had to be made and the ground levelled, drained and prepared. For this the Serbian Government lent the necessary labour and gave all the assistance in their power.

At Monastir in one year 843 patients were admitted to the Ambulance, 249 operations were performed, 18,074 out-patients were treated, and at the Soup-kitchen about 1,500 to 2,000 persons were served daily with meals.

In the outlying villages, where ambulances and soup-kitchens are established, between 2,000 and 3,000 meals are given daily, and between 1,000 and 1,500 patients are treated weekly either in their homes or at the dispensary.

The 200 bed hospital at Kremyan is now used almost exclusively for civilian patients received from Monastir and the outlying villages, as the military needs are amply provided for by the hospital accommodation supplied by the Allied Governments. The serious cases from the dispensaries are sent to Kremyan, and a continuous train of assistance has been established, from combating sickness due to insufficient feeding and insanitary conditions, to hospital and operative treatment where necessary. This has resulted in an enormous improvement in the condition of the villagers generally and especially in that of the children.

Dr. Haigh has continued in charge of the work at Monastir, where owing to the constant and frequently heavy shelling of the town the conditions are always more arduous and dangerous than elsewhere. Here, besides sickness, they have many civilian wounded to care for.

Corsica.—The work in Corsica under Sir Edward Boyle, continues on much the same lines as during the previous year, but lately there has been an increase in the numbers of Serbians there, as many disabled soldiers have been sent by the French from the

THE SERBIAN RELIEF FUND.

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, 29th September, 1914 to 30th April, 1918.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions, Donations, Entertainments, Flag Days, and Sales of Work	511,568	11	5
„ Orphanage Fund	11,003	6	4
„ Interest on Deposit Account and Treasury Bills *less* transferred to Orphanage Fund	10,675	8	2
„ Sundry Receipts and Refunds by Administrators	13,420	19	10
	£546,668	5	9

DISBURSEMENTS.	£	s.	d.
By Maintenance of Hospitals and Units ...	292,190	2	10
„ Grants in Cash	26,813	11	2
„ Serbian Prisoners of War ...	62,189	13	5
„ Maintenance and Education of Serbians in England	44,936	18	5
„ Incidental Expenses, including Joint Exhibition, Serbian Relief Fund, and Serbian Red Cross	8,489	15	5
„ Publicity Expenses	30,074	8	11
„ Administration Expenses ...	9,707	19	4
„ Disbursements of Funds held for Special Objects	2,744	7	0
„ Cash at Bank and in Hand ...	69,521	9	3
	£546,668	5	9

NOTE.—The Committee desire to point out that against the balance of Cash as shewn above, amounting to £69,521 9*s.* 3*d.*, they have assumed liabilities in connection with the activities of the Fund, amounting to approximately £50,000. The Committee estimate the Expenditure in continuing their present activities at £9,100 per mensem.

Please send donations to the Rt. Hon. The Earl of Plymouth, G.B.E., C.B., The Serbian Relief Fund, 5, Cromwell Road, London, S.W. 7, to whom all cheques should be made payable.

PLYMOUTH,
Hon. Treasurer.

South of France. The Sanatorium for tuberculous patients at Sari D'Orcino near Ajaccio has been opened and is doing good work. The medical supervision is in the hands of the doctor of the Scottish Women's Hospital at Ajaccio.

Corfu.—Mr. Dell remains in charge of the small camp in Corfu where disabled soldiers are looked after, and assisted to earn a small living by the provision of tools and materials for tailoring, boot-making, etc. Their lot is much ameliorated by Mr. Dell's care. Recently a gusla, a Serbian national musical instrument, made by one of the inmates of this camp, was sent to England to be presented to H.M. the Queen, who has been graciously pleased to accept it.

Marseilles.—Mr. Roy Coventry continues to represent the Fund in Marseilles, where he has a large field for assisting the Serbian students, and disabled soldiers who are scattered about the South of France, and who have benefited very largely by his energetic interest for them in every direction. Mr. Coventry is also of the greatest help to the Fund in meeting and assisting workers on their way to and from Salonika, Corsica and Bizerta and in making purchases for these places and Corfu.

Education.—The great and outstanding event in this branch of our work is the grant by the Treasury of £25,000 per annum to carry on the education of the Serbians under our direction and responsibility, and the recognition of the fact that this work is of national importance.

The education of the Serbian youths in Great Britain has continued on the lines described in the last report under the careful supervision of Mr. J. E. Bellows, and we continue to be indebted to most of those mentioned then for their kindness in supporting our colonies, and to the Heads of Universities and schools for their generous aid. We must mention here the heavy loss which we, in common with the whole University, have suffered by the death of Mr. Sidney Ball, the Senior Tutor of St. John's and the Chairman of our local Education Committee in Oxford. There are now altogether about sixty University students, most of whom are received by the Colleges on the most generous terms; about 175 are at Secondary Schools, 50 at Elementary Schools, and the remainder are being trained as teachers, engineers, agriculturists, and for commercial pursuits.

It is satisfactory to note that already some of the lads are being taken into business with good results. We aim at giving, not only a good type of English education, but also an education that is practical and fitted to the future needs of Serbia.

A large and representative Committee has been formed in Wales and the monies raised by this Committee are for the General

Fund. The Serbian Relief Fund Committee undertakes to provide for the entire cost of the maintenance and education of the Serbian students in Wales.

We have continued our grant to assist the Serbians who are finishing their education in Switzerland.

Gifts in Kind.—The response to our appeals for clothing and hospital requisites has continued on a generous scale, and we must make special mention of the really magnificent contributions of the Canadian Red Cross Society, who have given us altogether over 100,000 articles, consisting of shirts, socks and household linen.

During the year we have received 276,986 articles and we have dispatched out of the gifts:

To Bizerta	...	45,133 articles
Corfu	...	3,610
Corsica	...	28,980
Marseilles	...	21,015
Macedonia	...	155,408
Refugees in Gt. Britain	...	6,000
Prisoners of War	...	55,517
	Total	315,663

Serbian Work.—During the year we have opened at 39, King Street, St. James's, a shop for the sale of articles made by Serbians in the workshops we have established in Corsica, Bizerta and Corfu.

Finance.—A Statement of Account from the commencement of the Fund to the 30th April, 1918, is appended to the report.

The amount received during the year ended the 30th April, 1918, under the heading Subscriptions, Donations, Entertainments, Flag Days, Sales of Work, etc., was £64,233 18*s.* 5*d.* as compared with the sum of £83,747 10*s.* 5*d.* received during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to £112,832 16*s.* 3*d.* as compared with £141,564 11*s.* 3*d.* the previous year. The expenditure exceeded the donations by £48,598 17*s.* 10*d.*

As will be seen from the above figures there has been a serious falling off in our receipts, necessitating the curtailment to some extent of our expenditure.

The financial situation gives rise to much anxiety, and we deeply regret to report that **we are faced by the prospect of having to curtail still further, or cease altogether, our activities in the near future unless we can obtain a larger measure of support from the public.** We know well the heavy calls on everyone's purse in the shape of heavy taxation, increased cost of living,

and appeals of all kinds, and we thankfully recognise the generous support we have received during the last three years and a half.

But the present excess of expenditure over receipts and the consequent extinction of our balance in hand within a few months, causes us the greater regret because we feel that one of the most useful and fruitful fields of our work will be in the period after the war, when the exiled Serbians return to their country, and when assistance of all kinds would be of inestimable service to them.

It will be impossible for us to render this assistance if our coffers are empty, and we appeal now for the funds which will enable us to carry on the work we are doing, and also to face the future with some hope that we may be able to continue it.

P.S.—Since the above was written, Mr. Glynne Williams has with great regret resigned the Vice-Chairmanship of the Fund which he has held for nearly two years, but he will continue to serve on the Executive and Sub-Committees, and give all the help he can.

Mr. John Borie has been elected Vice-Chairman.

July, 1918.

There is a great need of shirts, socks, underclothing for prisoners and refugees; household linen; suits for men and boys, great-coats, woollen stockings, etc.

All parcels to be addressed to:

Mrs. CARRINGTON WILDE,
5, Cromwell Road,
London, S.W. 7.

Women's Printing Society, Ltd., Brick Street, Piccadilly, W. 1.